[2] Types not included in currently approved AASHTO specifications may be specified if recommended by the State with adequate justification and approved by FHWA.

Subpart E—Interstate Maintenance Guidelines

SOURCE: 45 FR 20793, Mar. 31, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

§ 635.501 Purpose.

To prescribe Interstate maintenance guidelines and establish the policy and procedures to insure that the condition of Interstate routes is maintained at the level required by the purposes for which they were designed.

§ 635.503 Policy.

The policy of the FHWA is to insure that each State highway agency develops and implements an Interstate maintenance program conforming to the guidelines in this subpart. The maintenance program shall be consistent with practices deemed necessary to adequately provide for motorist safety, preservation of the highways, rideability, and aesthetics.

§ 635.505 Maintenance guidelines.

(a) The following critical elements should serve to direct the development and implementation of an Interstate maintenance program in each State.

(1) *Roadway surfaces.* Preservation of the structural integrity of the roadway and the safety and comfort of the user. This includes a safe, smooth, skid-resistant surface, as close as practical to the original, or subsequently improved, grade and cross section.

(2) *Shoulders.* Preservation of a safe, smooth surface which is free of obstruction, contiguous with the adjacent roadway surface, and as close as practical to the original, or subsequently improved, grade and cross section.

(3) *Roadside.* Preservation of the roadside in a safe, pleasant, and forgiving manner through vegetation management, erosion control, and litter pick-up.

(4) *Drainage.* Preservation of hydraulic capacity for which originally designed.

(5) *Bridges and tunnels.* Preservation of the structural and operational characteristics for which originally designed. These include safe, smooth, skid-resistant surfaces; proper surface drainage; and adequate functioning bearing devices and substructural elements. Replacement or repair of structural railing and approach guardrail should be done without unreasonable delay. Tunnels should be cleaned, properly lighted, and adequately ventilated.

(6) *Snow and ice control.* Preservation of the roadway safety, efficiency, and environment during winter driving conditions.

(7) *Traffic control devices.* Preservation of clean, legible, visible, and properly functioning traffic control devices. This includes pavement markings, signing, delineators, signals, etc.

(8) *Safety appurtenances.* Replacement of damaged, defective, and/or inoperable devices without unreasonable delay. This includes guardrails, impact attenuators, breakaway supports, barriers, etc.

(9) *Safety rest areas.* Preservation and operation of facilities reasonably necessary for the convenience, relaxation, and informational needs of the user.

(10) *Access control.* Preservation of the originally designed access control, elimination of unauthorized traffic movement, and prevention of improper or unauthorized use of the highway rights-of-way.

(11) *Traffic safety in maintenance and utility work zones.* Procedures that will aid the safety of motorists and maintenance workers. The procedures shall be consistent with the provisions of 23 CFR part 630, subpart J, and part VI of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.[1]

(b) All replacements and repairs should conform to the currently approved design standards (23 CFR part 625) for all critical elements listed in

[1] Available for purchase from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (GPO Stock Number 050–001–81001–8), and for inspection and copying as prescribed in 49 CFR 7, app. D.